By the King.

A Proclamation againſt the making, or vſing of any Nets or Engines, for taking of Pheſants and Partridges.

HIs Maieſtie hauing found the great decay, and ſcarcity of the game of Partridge, did lately publiſh his royall pleaſure by Proclamation, for preuenting thoſe wayes, and meanes, that contrary to the Lawes and Statutes of this Realme, are frequently practiſed, for deſtroying the ſame. But now perceiuing that it hath not yet produced that reformation which he expected; He is pleaſed further to ſignifie His Princely Will, and Commandment in that behalfe; And doth therefore hereby ſtraitly charge, and command, That no perſon, or perſons, of what degree, or quality ſoeuer, ſhall at any time hereafter preſume to make, vſe, or keepe, in his, or their houſe, or elſewhere, any Tunnellnet, Hoopnet, Broadnet, Sheetnet, or any other ſort of Nets, Trannels, Lowbels, Engines, Snares, or inſtruments whatſoeuer now deuiſed, or practiſed, or which hereafter ſhall bee deuiſed, or practiſed, for the getting, or taking of Pheſants, or Partridges, either by day, or by night, vpon paine of His Maieſties high diſpleaſure, and ſuch puniſhment as His Court of Starre-Chamber ſhall thinke meete to inflict vpon ſuch delinquents, for their contempt of his Maieſties Commandment in that behalfe. And to the end His Maieſties ſaid royall pleaſure herein may be hereafter more duely obſerued; His Maieſtie doth hereby expreſly require, authorize and command, aſwell all and euery the Juſtices of Peace in their ſeuerall Counties, as the maſter of His Maieſties Hawkes for the time being, That vpon requeſt to them, or any one of them, from time to time made, by any perſon, or perſons that ſhall endeauour the preſeruing of the ſaid game, or the finding out of the ſaid Nets, Snares, Engines, ſetting-Dogs, or other deuices for taking of Pheſants, or Partridge: They make forth their Warrants for the ſearching of any houſes, or other places, where any ſuch Nets, Engines, Snares, ſetting-Dogs, or other deuices ſhall be ſuſpected to be had, made, or kept. And that thereupon it ſhall be lawfull to euery ſuch perſon, or perſons, hauing ſuch Warrant, or Warrants, to enter into, and make ſearch in any ſuch houſes, or places, where he or they ſhall vnderſtand, or ſuſpect any ſuch Nets, Snares, Engines, ſetting-Dogs, or other deuices to be ſo made, vſed, or kept; And the ſame there found, to ſeize, take, cut in pieces, and vtterly deſtroy at his and their pleaſures. And his Maieſty doth further ſtraitly charge and command all Maiors, Sheriffes, Juſtices of Peace, Conſtables, Officers, and miniſters of Juſtice whatſoeuer, to take ſpeciall care for the due execution of His Maieſties ſaid royall Will and Pleaſure herein declared. And laſtly, that all ſuch perſons as ſhall be found offendors in the premiſſes, may be ſeuerely puniſhed, for ſuch their contempts, His Maieſty doth expreſly charge and require, That vpon complaint or information thereof made to His Attorney generall for the time being, they be proceeded againſt in the Starre-Chamber, that they may receiue condigne puniſhment according to their demerits.

Giuen at Our Palace of Weſtminſter the eleuenth day of December, in the tenth yeere of Our Reigne.

God ſaue the King.

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